

REMARKS

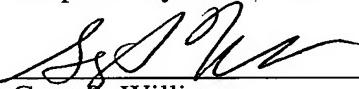
- Method claims 8-14 and 24 have been amended to improve clarity and consistency, and the apparatus claims 15, 16, 18-23 have been amended, replaced and supplemented for consistence with the amended method claims. Only two independent claims (8 and 15) are presented.
- Apparatus claims 15-16 and 18-23 correspond to the method claims as follows: 15(8), 16(9), 18(13), 19(14), 20(10), 21(11), 22(12), 23(24).

After entry of this amendment, the pending claims are: claims 8-14, 15-16, 18-23.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this amendment and election of claims 8-16 and 18-23. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (650) 849-7721, if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining items.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 21, 2004



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